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Message Text

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73
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11

FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-07

SWF-02 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 STR-08 OPIC-12 SCI-06 INT-08 FEA-02

TRSE-00 CEQ-02 EPA-04 SAJ-01 VO-03 SCA-01 LAB-06

SIL-01 DRC-01 /181 W
---------- 098184
R 101529Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8979
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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STATE PASS TO DOT

LONDON FOR BRINEGAR PARTY

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN, OVIP (BRINEGAR, CLAUDEBA S.), RO
SUBJECT: SECRETARY BRINEGAR'S VISIT TO ROMANIA

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 2386; (B) BUCHAREST 2438

1. SUMMARY: SECRETARY BRINEGAR COMPLETED A FOUR-DAY VISIT TO ROMANIA WITH A CALL ON PRESIDENT NICOLAE CEAUSESCU SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 8. THE TRIP WAS MARKED THROUGHOUT BY A HIGH DEGREE OF CORDIALITY AND HOSPITALITY AND THE SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY WERE ABLE TO DISCUSS TRANSPORTATION MATTERS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF ROMANIAN OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS GETTING A FIRST-HAND VIEW OF MAJOR ROMANIAN SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES. IN ADDITION TO PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU, THE SECRETARY
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MET DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER EMIL DRAGANESCU, MINISTER OF TRANS-

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PORTATION TRAIAN DUDAS, AND OTHER ROMANIAN TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS.
AS EXPECTED, MINISTER DUDAS RAISED THE ISSUE OF A MARITIME
BILATERAL BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ROMANIA. THE SECRETARY TOOK
NOTE OF THE MINISTER'S INTEREST AND EXPLAINED THAT THE MATTER
WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED IN A BROADER CONTEXT INVOLVING
OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN ADDITION TO THE DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION. THE ROMANIAN MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION IN
RETURN PROMISED TO CLARIFY FURTHER WHAT AREAS IT WISHES SUCH
A BILATERAL TO COVER. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING A BUSY FOUR-DAY VISIT TO ROMANIA CAPPED BY A PRE-
DEPARTURE CALL ON PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU, SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
CLAUDE BRINEGAR MET WITH ROMANIAN TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS
AND VISITED MAJOR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES,
INCLUDING THE PORT OF CONSTANTA. THE PROGRAM FOR THE SECRE-
TARY'S VISIT REMAINS LARGELY AS OUTLINED IN BUCHAREST 2386,
WITH THE ADDITION OF A CALL ON CEAUSESCU
JUNE 8 AND A LAKE-SIDE VISIT WITH VICE PRIME MINISTER (FORMER
MINISTER OR TRANSPORTATION) EMIL DRAGANESCU AND HIS WIFE DURING
THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 5. MAJOR EVENTS AND ISSUES RAISED WERE
COVERED BELOW.

3. CALL ON CEAUSESCU SATURDAY, JUNE 8.
PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU ASKED SECRETARY BRINEGAR TO POSTPONE HIS
DEPARTURE SLIGHTLY IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT SEE HIM. DURING
THEIR DISCUSSION CEAUSESCU CONCENTRATED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF
MFN FOR ROMANIA AND ON HIS HOPES FOR EXPANDED U.S. BUSINESS
INTEREST HERE. HE HALF JOKINGLY MENTIONED THAT IF ROMANIA WAS
PREPARED TO GIVE ITS FOREIGN TRADE ENTERPRISES SOMEWHAT MORE
FREEDOM OF ACTION, THEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT OUGHT TO INTERVENE
SOMEWHAT MORE TO PUSH AMERICAN FIRMS IN THE DIRECTION OF
COOPERATION WITH ROMANIA. SECRETARY BRINEGAR POINTED OUT THE
LIMITS OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES
BUT NOTED THAT U.S. FIRMS DO SHOW AN INTEREST IN GOVERNMENT
SUGGESTIONS AS TO WHERE GOOD BUSINESS PROSPECTS LIE. HE ADDED
HOWEVER THAT AMERICAN COMPANIES PAY MUCH MORE ATTENTION TO THE
EXPERIENCE OF OTHER AMERICAN COMPANIES AND THEREFORE IT WAS
IMPORTANT TO HAVE SOME CLEAR EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS IN THE FIELD
OF U.S. ROMANIAN BUSINESS COOPERATION.

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4. TALKS WITH DRAGANESCU WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5.
DRAGANESCU GAVE BRIEF GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF HIS NEW POSITION.
HE ALSO MENTIONED THE HIGH RATE OF INVESTMENT WHICH WOULD
CONTINUE TO CHARACTERIZE ROMANIAN GROWTH PATTERN FOR CONSIDERABLE
TIME TO COME. HE SPOKE IN GLOWING TERMS OF HIS OWN
VISIT TO THE U.S.

5. TALKS WITH DUDAS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5.

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DUDAS REVIEWED HIS MINISTRY'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN SURFACE TRANSPORTATION, POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS. HE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE PORT OF CONSTANTA IS PRESENTLY BEING DEEPENED TO HANDLE SHIPS OF UP TO 100,000 DWT. ROMANIA IS INTERESTED IN CONSTRUCTING OFFSHORE LOADING AND UNLOADING FACILITIES FOR OIL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS. (IN SUBSEQUENT TALKS WITH GHEORGHE BALASOIU, DR. HALPERN AND CMDR. SULLIVAN UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE TO THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND MANAGEMENT OF DEEP-WATER PORTS AND ON POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES. BALASOIU ALSO REQUESTED THE NAMES OF AMERICAN FIRMS ABLE TO DESIGN AND BUILD SUCH FACILITIES. DOT WILL FOLLOW-UP ON THIS.) DUDAS ALSO DESCRIBED PLANS FOR THE DANUBE-BLACK SEA CANAL, TO BE STARTED DURING THE NEXT FIVE-YEAR PLAN, WHERE HE SAID AMERICAN EXPERIENCE MIGHT BE RELEVANT. (THE IDEA OF A VISIT BY DAVID OBERLIN, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE U.S. ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOP-MENT CORP., WAS RAISED ON A VERY TENTATIVE BASIS WITH BALASOIU, IT BEING LEFT THAT DOT WOULD PROVIDE BACKGROUND DATA.) AS EXPECTED, DUDAS ALSO RAISED ROMANIA'S INTEREST IN CONCLUDING A BILATERAL MARITIME AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. SECRETARY BRINEGAR NOTED THE MINISTER'S INTEREST AND EXPLAINED THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT GOES BEYOND THE JURISDICTION OF DOT AND WOULD NEED TO BE WORKED OUT IN CONSULTATION WITH SEVERAL U.S. GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. (BALASOIU LATER AGREED THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN CLEAR WHAT AREAS ROMANIAN EXPECTED A MARITIME BILATERAL TO ENCOMPASS AND SAID HE WOULD SHORTLY PROVIDE THE EMBASSY WITH EITHER A DRAFT AGREEMENT OR AN OUTLINE OF WHAT ROMANIA HAD IN MIND. BALASOIU SAID THE MATTER HAD BEEN RAISED WITH SECRETARY BRINEGAR NOT REPEAT NOT WITH THE EXPECTATION THAT AN AGREEMENT COULD QUICKLY BE SIGNED BUT WITH THE INTENTION OF OPENING A

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